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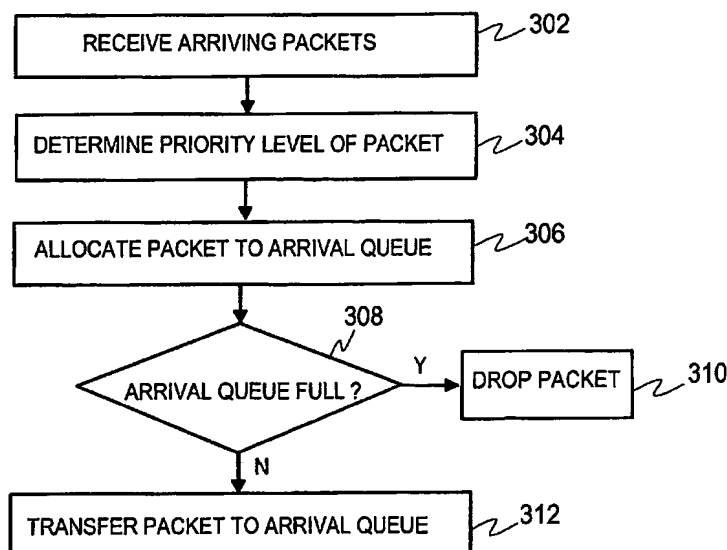
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(54) Title: PACKET QUEUING SYSTEM AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: There is disclosed a method of queuing packets received at an input to at least one device for processing, the method comprising the steps of: allocating each received packet to at least one arrival queue of the device; placing each packet in the allocated queue if said queue is not full, otherwise dropping said packet; scheduling packets from the device arrival queue to at least one transfer queue; responsive to transfer of a packet to a transfer queue, generating an interrupt from the device to a processor; at the processor, responsive to receipt of an interrupt, allocating the packet to one of a plurality of processor queues; placing the packet in the allocated processor queue if said queue is not full, otherwise dropping said packet; and scheduling packets from the processor queues for processing.

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